



NETTAPUS COROMANDELIANUS.

Pygmy Goose.

- Anas Coromandeliana*, Gmel. Syst. Nat., vol. i. p. 522?—Lath. Ind. Orn., vol. ii. p. 875?
Bernicla Coromandeliana, Steph. Cont. of Shaw, Gen. Zool., vol. xii. p. 56?
Coromandel Teal, Lath. Gen. Syn., vol. vi. p. 556; and Gen. Hist., vol. x. p. 374?
Sarcelle de Coromandel, Buff. Pl. Enl., 949, 950; and Hist. Nat. des Ois., tom. ix. p. 274?
Bernicla Girra, Hardw. and Gray, Ind. Zool.?
Anser Girra, Sykes in Proc. of Zool. Soc., Part II. p. 167?
Cheniscus Coromandelianus, Eyton, Mon. of the Anatidæ, p. 89?
Microcygna Coromandeliana, G. R. Gray, 2nd Ed. List of Gen. of Birds, p. 93?
Girra Teal, Lath. Gen. Hist., vol. x. p. 374?
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THIS species is so nearly allied to the *Nettapus Coromandelianus* of Java and India, from which, indeed, it only differs in being of a much larger size, that rather than it should be considered that I am unnecessarily adding to the list of species by characterizing it under another name, I have for the present treated it as identical with that bird; but should future research lead to a different conclusion, I would propose that it should be named *Nettapus albipennis*, a term applicable to both, but which, from the greater length of the primaries, and the consequent increased development of the white mark on those feathers of the Australian bird, will I hope not be deemed an inappropriate appellation.

This elegant little Goose is tolerably abundant on the eastern portions of the Australian continent, inhabiting the estuaries and rivers between the ranges, and the coast from the Hunter to Moreton Bay, and in all probability far to the northward of these localities, though my knowledge of its range will not allow me to say such is the case, as it is one of the few birds of New South Wales which I had no opportunity of observing in a state of nature; I am consequently unable to furnish any account of its habits and economy; neither, I regret to say, can I supply the deficiency from the notes of any other observer.

The sexes are easily distinguished from each other by the greater size of the male, and by the far more brilliant colouring of his markings.

The figures are those of a male and a female of the natural size.